



HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTS

ART CONTEST

"My Choice, My Voice, My Vote"

We encourage students in Promote the Vote to express their patriotism and creativity by designing artwork depicting civic responsibility and voter participation. Many times the works of these young artists make the most lasting impressions.

The theme gives rise to this year's Art Contest: "My Choice, My Voice, My Vote." Art entries should illustrate the idea that Americans have equal opportunity to share their views, (and through our initiative process possibly affect legislation), and by casting their vote, having their voice heard.

All entries become the property of the Secretary of State's Office.

Awards will be granted in each of the two subject areas. First, second, and third place winners will be announced for each category. Top winners will receive savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

Participants must use white, unlined cardstock or poster board. Entries must be submitted on sturdy 11x17 white poster or illustration board.

The *Promote the Vote* Art Contests are open to Mississippi PTV students in Grades 9-12.

ART CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Artists' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Submissions that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be ineligible for competition.
- Submissions will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Submissions will be judged for content, originality, and artistic merit.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State's Office.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each of the four categories.
- Winners will be announced and honored by the Secretary of State in early 2011. An Awards Day will be held at the State Capitol soon after the announcement, at which winners will receive savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

STATE ART CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1. All entries must be postmarked no later than Friday, December 2, 2011.
2. Entries must be sent to the Secretary of State's Office, Promote the Vote Art Contest, Attn: Laura Walker, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3. Contestants must be enrolled in grades kindergarten through twelve.
4. Entries must be original artwork by the student.
5. Artwork must be submitted on sturdy 11x17 white poster board.
6. The contestant's name must NOT appear on the front of the artwork.
7. Only one entry is allowed per contestant.

8. The participant submitting the entry must be a student in a class that registered for Promote the Vote 2011 and participated in the Mock Election, submitting election results to the Secretary of State's office.
9. Each piece of artwork must be accompanied by the art entry cover sheet.. The social security number is required.
10. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
11. The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted artwork. Please take photos or make copies for the student's own records.

Political Cartoon Contest

“Voter ID” or “My Choice, My Voice, My Vote”

Political cartoons are an influential way for individuals to express political opinions and send a powerful message. The combination of artistry and humor or poignancy often creates indelible images in the minds of readers. We believe students have the ability to use this unique medium.

There are two options for students to consider. Students may only submit cartoons for one of the themes.

1. Students may draw a cartoon illustrating the 2011 PTV theme of **“My Choice, My Voice, My Vote.”** Students' cartoons should illustrate the idea that as citizens of a democracy we individually have the responsibility and opportunity to choose our leaders and express our opinions on critical issues by casting our ballot -- and that each vote counts toward determining the direction of our government.
2. Students may choose to investigate both the pros and the cons of the proposed **Voter Identification** Constitution Initiative, determine their own position and then produce a political cartoon illustrating their point of view. Teachers are encouraged to prepare students by examining several different political cartoons on varying subjects as well as utilizing the downloadable videos available on the PTV website featuring two of Mississippi's own award-winning political cartoonists discussing the ways they create their own political cartoons.

All entries become the property of the Secretary of State's Office.

Awards will be granted in each of the two subject areas. First, second, and third place winners will be announced for each category. Top winners will receive savings bonds awards along with certificates of recognition.

Participants must use white, unlined cardstock or poster board. Cartoons must be submitted on sturdy 11x17 white poster or illustration board. Cartoons may be submitted either in Black/White or in full color.

The *Promote the Vote* Political Cartoon Contests are open to Mississippi students in Grades 9-12.

POLITICAL CARTOON/ART CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Artists' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Submissions that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be ineligible for competition.
- Submissions will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Submissions will be judged for content, originality and artistic merit.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each of the two categories.

STATE POLITICAL CARTOON CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1. All entries must be received by the Secretary of State's office in Jackson no later than Friday, December 2, 2011.
2. Entries must be sent to the Secretary of State's Office, *Promote the Vote* Political Cartoon Contest, Attn: Laura Walker, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3. Contestants must be enrolled in grades six through twelve.
4. Entries must be original artwork by the student, in black ink or pencil, on white paper.
5. The contestant's name must **NOT** appear on the front of the political cartoon.
6. Cartoons must be submitted on sturdy 11x17 white poster board.
7. Only one entry is allowed per contestant. Students may NOT submit cartoons for both subject categories.
8. The participant submitting the entry must be a student in a class that registered for Promote the Vote 2011 and participated in the Mock Election, submitting election results to the Secretary of State's office.
9. Each political cartoon **must be accompanied** by the political cartoon entry cover sheet. The social security number is required.
10. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
11. The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted political cartoons. Please take photos or make copies for the student's own records.

“VOTE TODAY” NEW MEDIA MARKETING CAMPAIGN Grades 9-12

The New Media Marketing Contest challenges students to utilize state-of-the art technology including cell phones, texting, You Tube, email, Twitter, Facebook and other new media to communicate the message of “Vote Today” as part of a comprehensive marketing campaign. The goal is to increase voter participation in their local community for the November 8 General Election.

Students should be encouraged to discuss the influence on new media on current and recent political campaigns and decide which medium is most effective in communicating their message. Teachers should find real-world examples of how the internet and wireless communication is used to provide real-time communication with a specific target audience.

The New Media Marketing campaign must NOT promote any individual candidate or political party but instead re-enforce the message of **“Vote Today!”**

NEW MEDIA MARKETING CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Students' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Submissions that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be ineligible for competition.
- Submissions will be assigned an identification number upon receipt.
- Submissions will be judged for content, originality and effectiveness.

- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State.
- First, second, and third place winners will be selected from each of the two categories.

MARKETING CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1. All entries must be received by the Secretary of State's office in Jackson no later than Friday, December 2, 2011.
2. Entries must be sent to the Secretary of State's Office, *Promote the Vote* Political Cartoon Contest, Attn: Laura Walker, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3. Contestants must be enrolled in grades six through twelve.
4. Entries must be original work by the student.
5. A written description of what media was utilized, the message as it was conveyed and an explanation of the targeted audience must be submitted.
6. It is recommended that students print out the actual emails sent as well as transcribe Twitter and Facebook entries.
7. Only one marketing plan is allowed per contestant.
8. The participant submitting the entry must be a student in a class that registered for Promote the Vote 2011 and participated in the Mock Election, submitting election results to the Secretary of State's office.
9. Each marketing plan **must be accompanied** by the marketing contest entry cover sheet. The social security number is required.
10. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.
11. The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted entries.

POLITICAL EDITORIAL CONTEST "Voter Identification"

This activity allows Mississippi students a chance to express their views on important issues and utilize the written word to persuade others to accept their point of view.

Students are encouraged to investigate both the pros and the cons of the proposed **Voter Identification** Constitution Initiative, determine their own position and then produce a 300 to 500-word editorial which summarizes their opinion and attempts to persuade readers to adopt their chosen position.

Teachers are encouraged to discuss the Voter Identification proposal in the classroom prior to the student's participation in this contest. Information on the Voter Identification Constitutional Initiative is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ms.gov/initiatives. A Voter Identification Initiative brochure is downloadable from the website as well.

Honors will be extended to first, second, and third place winners in each category. Statewide winners will receive savings bonds.

All Political Editorial Contest submissions become the property of the Secretary of State's Office upon arrival. The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted essays. Please keep a copy for the student's own records

POLITICAL EDITORIAL CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Student essay writers' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Essays that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be ineligible for competition.

- Essays will be assigned an identification number upon receipt and no names will be associated with entries until after judging is complete.
- Essays will be judged for content, style, and form.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State's Office.
- Identities of the judges will be kept secret.
- First, second and third place winners will be selected.

POLITICAL EDITORIAL CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1. All entries must be received by the Secretary of State's office in Jackson no later than Friday, December 2, 2011..
2. Entries must be sent to the *Promote the Vote* Essay Contest, Secretary of State's Office, Attn: Laura Walker, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3. Essays must be typed, single-spaced, on 8.5 x 11 (letter size) paper.
4. All pages must be numbered in the upper right hand corner.
5. Essays are limited to two pages.
6. Contestants must be in Grades 9-12.
7. The essay must be the work of the contestant.
8. The participant submitting the entry must be a student in a class that registered for Promote the Vote 2011 and participated in the Mock Election, submitting election results to the Secretary of State's office.
9. Only one editorial may be submitted by each contestant.
10. Each editorial must be accompanied by the essay entry cover sheet provided on the PTV website. The social security number is required.
11. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.

ORATORY CONTEST "Voter Identification"

This activity allows Mississippi students a chance to express their views on important issues and utilize the spoken word to persuade others to accept their point of view.

Students are encouraged to investigate both the pros and the cons of the proposed **Voter Identification** Constitution Initiative, determine their own position and then write and deliver a five-minute oral argument or speech which summarizes their opinion and attempts to persuade readers to adopt their chosen position.

Teachers are encouraged to discuss the Voter Identification proposal in the classroom prior to the student's participation in this contest. Information on the Voter Identification Constitutional Initiative is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ms.gov/initiatives. A Voter Identification Initiative brochure is downloadable from the website as well.

Honors will be extended to first, second, and third place winners in each category. Statewide winners will receive savings bonds.

All written and DVD submissions become the property of the Secretary of State's Office upon arrival. The Secretary of State's Office will not be able to return submitted presentations. Please keep a copy for the student's own records

ORATORY CONTEST JUDGING PROCESS

Student orators' names and addresses will be kept secret from the judges until winners are announced.

- Entries that do not conform to the Official Rules of the Contest shall be ineligible for competition.
- Entries will be assigned an identification number upon receipt and no names will be associated with entries until after judging is complete.
- Entries will be judged for content, style, and presentation.
- A panel of judges will be selected by the Secretary of State's Office.
- Identities of the judges will be kept secret.
- First, second and third place winners will be selected.

POLITICAL ORATORY CONTEST OFFICIAL RULES

1. All entries must be received by the Secretary of State's office in Jackson no later than Friday , October 17, 2011. Students must submit both a written copy of the speech as well as a DVD of the verbal presentation.
2. Entries must be sent to the *Promote the Vote* Essay Contest, Secretary of State's Office, Attn: Laura Walker, Post Office Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205.
3. Essays must be typed, single-spaced, on 8.5 x 11 (letter size) paper. The videos must be recorded on a DVD.
4. The presentations must be no longer than 5 minutes in length.
5. Contestants must be in Grades 9-12.
6. The entry must be the work of the contestant.
7. The participant submitting the entry must be a student in a class that registered for Promote the Vote 2011 and participated in the Mock Election, submitting election results to the Secretary of State's office.
8. Only one entry may be submitted by each contestant.
9. Each entry must be accompanied by the Political Oratory Contest cover. The social security number is required.
10. Failure to comply with any rule will result in disqualification.

Twelve winning presentations (six pro arguments and six con arguments) will be invited to participate in a live Student Public Hearing on the Voter Identification Initiative to be held at the Old Capitol Museum in Jackson on Thursday, November 3 immediately prior to the announcement of the Mock Election results. Participating students will be recognized by Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann who will moderate the public event.